

## **FEMA Issues New Draft Flood Maps Throughout Placer County**

Some Placer residents can soon look forward to lower flood insurance premiums now that the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has issued new draft flood maps for the county. But in a number of areas, including some mapped for the first time, flood risk has increased and may change flood insurance requirements and costs for some property owners.

The new maps are considered preliminary and should go into effect once they're made final in about a year (estimated to be June 2017), after a public review and appeal period.

The maps cover the entire county, including cities like Lincoln, as well as Placer's unincorporated areas. Countywide, an estimated 280 structures are no longer shown in high-risk flood zones on the new maps and 220 estimated structures have been added to high-risk flood plains. The number of affected structures is approximate, as it reflects a comparison of the current flood insurance rate maps, which are paper maps, and the new digital flood insurance rate maps. Residents whose properties are affected by map changes will be notified by mail in early June 2016.

FEMA's flood insurance rate maps identify where flooding is likely to occur in the areas studied along major creeks and rivers, and establish flood insurance premium rates and whether flood insurance is mandatory for properties with federally-backed mortgages.

Over time, water flow and drainage patterns have changed dramatically due to erosion, land use, and natural forces. The likelihood of flooding in certain areas has changed along with these factors. New digital maps, along with more accurate ground elevation data and updated rainfall data, provide more current information about flood risks.

"While we have a lower flood risk than many areas in the Sacramento region, flooding is still of great concern to our area," said Ken Grehm, executive director of the Placer County Flood Control and Water Conservation District. "Even minor flooding can be very costly, so we encourage everyone to have flood insurance even if they live in a moderate to low-risk flood hazard area."

The new preliminary FEMA maps are available for review. View the maps on FEMA's website at <https://hazards.fema.gov/femaportal/prelimdownload/>.

A 90-day public review period will start in early June to allow residents to submit information to appeal changes to the maps if they believe the flood plain determinations to be inaccurate. FEMA will join county and city representatives at several community meetings in June to explain the map changes and answer questions about the maps and National Flood Insurance Program.

### **Meeting Details:**

*Roseville*  
June 16, 5-7 p.m.  
Maidu Community Center  
1550 Maidu Drive, Roseville, CA 95661

*Auburn*

June 22, 5:30-7:30 p.m.  
Auburn City Hall, Rose Room  
1225 Lincoln Way, Auburn, CA 95603

*Olympic Valley*

June 23, 5:30-7:30 p.m.  
Squaw Valley Public Service District  
305 Squaw Valley Road, Olympic Valley, CA 96146

*Rocklin\**

June 29, 5:30-7:30 p.m.  
Rocklin Event Center  
2650 Sunset Blvd, Rocklin, CA 95677

\*City of Lincoln staff will be present to answer questions